Synergetic Interaction Between Intellectual Property and Consumer Protection: 
A Pragmatic Proposal to Rebalance Incentives and Access

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Abstract

The paper analyzes in historical perspective the law & economics of intellectual property. The impact of the “digital revolution” appears in fact analogous to that of Gutenberg’s press more than five centuries ago.

The reaction of most industrial sectors negatively affected by the new technology is to block or difficult enabling legal change.

Public choice scholarship explains the recent trend of strengthening intellectual property, and the limits to use digital content.

The paper explores an alternative strategy to gain in efficiency and social welfare, by pushing a new balanced framework of intellectual property and consumer protection.